



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: G. Gundling, *et al.*

Examiner: B. Sisson

Serial No.: 09/492,213

Group Art Unit: 1655

Filed: January 27, 2000

Title: METHOD OF PROCESSING A  
SAMPLE CONTAINING AT  
LEAST ONE BIOLOGICAL  
ELEMENT

Case No.: 6416.US.P1

16/B  
B. Webb  
2/1/02  
RECEIVED  
JAN 29 2002  
TECH CENTER 1600/2C

Box RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

In connection with the attached Request For Continued Examination (RCE), and in response to the Office Action dated June 20, 2001, please amend the application as indicated and consider the following remarks.

**AMENDMENTS**

**In the Specification:**

Please amend the specification by replacing the paragraph bridging pages 7 and 8 with the following paragraph. A marked up version to show changes is attached.

*B\*  
A number of structures may be joined together or integrated to meet individual needs, such as modifying the number of tests performed in a given time period (throughput), tailoring the items of interest to be determined, etc. For example a number X of structures which perform Y determinations in a given hour may be connected such that the connected structures perform XY determinations in an hour. If desired, the resources of the structures may be allocated in a manner substantially similar to that disclosed in U.S. Patent No. 6,022,746 filed on March 12, 1998. That application is assigned to the assignee of the present case and the disclosure thereof is incorporated herein in its entirety.